



Fire Chief Steve Earley
3085 St. Lawrence Ave
Riverside CA 92504
951-826-5321
www.riversideca.gov/fire

the General Alarm

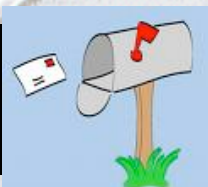
Sept 2012

FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS

Riverside United by Chris Stamper

The Riverside City FD now has a soccer team. We are "RFD UNITED" . We began our season in July and will finish up in September. So far we have lost every game, but we have Heart! Roster includes: Pat Hopkins, Jonathan Turley, Chris Stamper, Josh Fudge, Scott Richmond, Dave Hernandez, Dru Odil, Dustin Fenzke, Matt Stibal, Jeremiah Meadows, Jesse Norton, Bobby Redondo, John Sierra, and Shannon Smith





Casa Blanca Community Action Group

7680 Casa Blanca Street • Riverside, California 92504 • (951) 688-3043

August 30, 2012

City of Riverside Fire Department
Fire Chief Steven H. Earley
3085 St. Lawrence Street
Riverside, CA 92504

Dear Fire Chief Earley:

On behalf of Casa Blanca Community Action Group, and all who attended the "National Night Out" event, we would like to express our sincere "thank you" to you for your departments participation and support in making this event a success.

One of the goals of this event is to strengthen police and community partnerships and this was indeed displayed in a positive way that evening. Over 300 residents attended this event and enjoyed the food and entertainment provided.

The community also appreciates the dedication your firefighters display on a daily basis and are pleased that some of Station 10 firefighters could join us at this event.

Again, thank you for your continued support to the community of Casa Blanca.

Respectfully,

Bob García, Chairman
Casa Blanca Community Action Group

Cindy Mendoza-Collins, Secretary
Casa Blanca Community Action Group

Birthdays



Congratulations

Sept 2012

New Hires: FF Brandon Caballero (9/3); FF/PM Anthony Bons (9/28); Matthew Dalton (9/28)

6 Month: Richard Lee

12 Month: Stephen Fisher

Promotion to Captain: Eng Greg White (9/14)

Promotions to Engineer: FF Cory Bruce and FF Chad Selk (9/14)

Promotions to Public Safety Dispatch Supervisor: Kelley Ubelhor; Alyssa Hughes; and Angie Soria. The Riverside Police Department hosted a promotion ceremony on Monday September 17. The ceremony was attended by Police Chief Sergio Diaz, Fire Chief Steve Earley, and Division Chief Bob Bock

October Birthdays

Dave Bakas	10/29
Bill Batey	10/9
Bret Bauer	10/9
Shari Call	10/30
Misty Finney	10/24
Josh Fudge	10/18
David Greyslock	10/30
Anna Hauldren	10/4
Bryan Hoffman	10/23
Lisa Holloway	10/21
Tom Irwin	10/9
Bob Jerz	10/4
Kristen Johnson	10/23
Gene Lopez	10/18
Jeff Loveland	10/11
Jennifer McDowell	10/10
Terry Miller	10/12
James Reynolds	10/7
Gale Schulte	10/15
Aaron Wible	10/4





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With Sympathy...



Retirees

Retiree Vernon Lee: Retired Captain Vernon Lee passed away this month. Vernon Lee began his career as a firefighter with the Riverside City Fire Department on July 1, 1957 and retired as a captain on July 1, 1978. His memorial service was held on Sept 21 at Bridges Christian Fellowship. Vernon Lee was the father of USAR Captain Don Lee.

Retired Firefighter Bob Queen: Retired Firefighter Bob Queen passed away on Sept 22 at Vista Hospice Center in San Antonio Texas after a brief battle with brain cancer. Bob lived most of his life in Riverside where he retired from the RFD after 35 years of dedicated service, receiving both the California State Firemen's Valor Award for Heroic Acts as well as a proclamation from the City of Riverside for Excellence and Dedication. Bob was living in Blanco TX where he fulfilled his love of animals as co-owner of the highly respected Queen's Pride Aviaries. At his request, no memorial service will be held, but the imprint he left in the hearts and minds of those he left behind will be remembered.

/// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS ///

Bob Beckel Poem: The following is a beautiful poem written and read by retired RFD Engineer Frank Matthies at Bob Beckel's memorial service. The poem was based on the two friend's early years at the RFD. Frank was kind enough to send it to us, so that those who didn't attend the service would be able to enjoy the tribute:

"Oh Brother Where Art Thou"

Bob's life kind of followed the same lines as that movie.

He never got caught doing anything wrong,

But he did end up wearing prison gray uniforms.

He ended up sleeping in a men's dormitory, where many a night Bob heard some great stories.

I don't mean to be telling tales out of school,

But there was a man at City Hall willing to pay Bob to play cards.

He took the job...Bob made probation, and that's how he got into some interesting situations...

So there we were at Station Three,

Bob Fisher the Captain, me at the wheel,

Bob and Mel Webb on the tailboard a ready,

Looking like a matched set of two-hundred pound canaries.

We were headed for a small barn fire,

As we approached this unnatural disaster,

Bob yells through the hard suction,

Can't you go faster.....



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*Now I'm thinking to myself, it's not every day
That we get a real barn burner filled up with hay
We made the turn and all we could see
Was a malay of horses and fire as tall as the trees.*

*Fisher yells out two and a half,
Bob pulls four loops...and lucky for me...
There was a hydrant just in front of me.*

*Bob gives me the signal to charge the line...
I open the valve...and thought it was queer,
What's Bob's feet going up in the air.
I looked at the gauge...it said 150
That high pressure hydrant was not what I expected...
Neither did Bob as he was ejected.*

*I shut her down quick before he got hurt,
I rolled him around a time or two in the dirt.*

*Now Mel took over to give Bob a rest,
With his manure covered body he strode to the truck...
He said he was allergic to that, road apple stuff.*

*He sat on the tailboard...and I looked his way....
His face was blue, I knew that's not right...
It should have been red from losing the fight.*

*Bob was coughin' and wheezin'...not breathin' too deep.
I drug out the resuscitator to give him relief.*

*I know I have been trained to do mouth-to-mouth
I think both of us were prayin' there was another way out.*

*I called the chief, You've got to give him a ride
He was hospital bound in the wink of an eye.*

*I'm still wondering to this day
Was it allergy to that old cayuse...
Or was it simply a rous...*

*Bob would give you the shirt off his back,
Generally speaking it wasn't frayed too bad at the neck.
Bob took a trip down to Texas one year,
Bought him some longhorns he wanted for years...
Kinda reminded him of his stubborn ways...
Bull in a china closet what his mom used to say.*



Sept 2012

*As I stood role call I glanced over at Bob
Abominable snowman was all that I thought.*

*The pillow fights we had were serious business.
Clocked at a hundred...they would bowl you right over.
Sometimes you'd hide under your bed just to cover*

*The competitive eating or community chow,
We all managed to gain weight somehow.*

*We made homemade ice cream...
Bob cranked the handle, he took his turn...
There were late night card games,
We had calories to burn.*

*It doesn't matter the station, the shift, or the crew...
We were brothers in arms,
There was nothin' else we would do.*

Jeans Days for the United Way

{ Now through December 31st
Work appropriate jeans every Monday and Friday



\$5.00 per sticker or
5 for \$20 or
Golden Ticket \$100
Ask your department coordinator for
details!

Finding Balance (by Danielle Wesche)

the General Alarm



Sept 2012

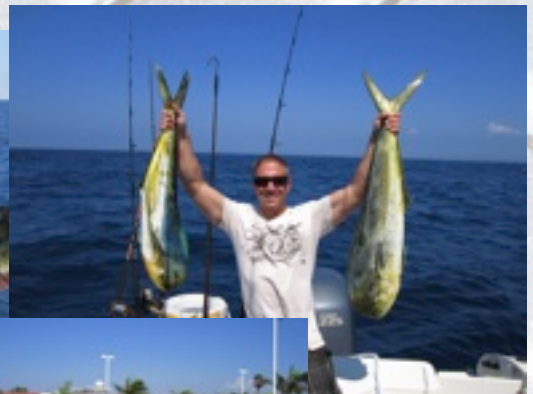
The following blog was written by Danielle Wesche, daughter of BC Mitch Wesche. Danielle completed the writing as part of an assignment for one of her nursing classes at Cal Baptist University. Although the article focuses on finding balance as a nursing student, the lessons mentioned seem applicable to any aspect of our lives. I hope you enjoy reading the thoughts of this insightful young lady:

Finding balance isn't always that easy to do when there is a risk of falling. When the Olympians performed on the balance beam there was always a risk of falling. I am sure Gabby Douglas, 2012 Olympic gymnast, had her unbalanced moments that resulted in her having to pick herself up off the floor and try again. Finding balance in life can very much be like this. Especially when you are a first semester nursing student. Every morning I wake up and try to balance my studies, stress, social life, exercise, regular twists and turns of life, and not to mention the actual time spent in the classroom and hospital. Every morning I get up on my balance beam of life and hope I don't fall. Things become unbalanced when you have to reread a nursing chapter because the first time around just didn't seem to cut it or when the hours in the day just seem to be stolen from you. What is the solution, you may ask? Well, finding balance is not a static process. You may be able to balance your life this week but next week you get the flu and you fall so hard you feel like your balance beam was 10 ft high. It takes practice to become balanced and it takes the realization that sometimes you are going to be waving your arms in circles to stay on the beam. My advice would be to stay strong and prioritize. If you seem to keep falling, change up your routine. Instead of studying for four hours straight, take a 10 min break every hour to stretch, clear your mind, call a family member or friend, or, in my case, thank God you have the opportunity to be in nursing school. People say life is about balance, what they forget to tell you is that life is also about constantly changing your routine to find that balance.

/// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS /// FIRE LINE - DO NOT CROSS ///

Fishing Trip

Four RFD members enjoyed a day of ocean fishing and fellowship on Sept 12. Skipper Kevin Whitaker took Matt Stibal, Christopher Stamper, and another person on an expedition of their lifetime! And the day ended with Kevin stranding the poor souls in a Carl's Jr parking lot in Dana Point. His truck broke down!



Sept 2012

PHOTO ALBUM

Left: Fire crews worked hard to get control of a stubborn Sept 10 riverbottom fire. Below: Captain Bob Ward was one of the initial officers on scene



Above: Engine 14 C crew

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Above: Fire Captain John Peurifoy and Public Safety Communication Dispatch Supervisor Kelley Ubelhor were married on Sept 29. Engine 1 crew stopped by the church to say congratulations and offer some fun photo opportunities for the new couple.

Then and Now...

Sept 2012

Answer to last month's question:

This is the location of old Fire Station #2. Actually this building was both the Fire Station & Police Station for the Arlington area. This Station was in service until the current Station 2 was built in 1971



This month's question:

How about this building at the corner of University & Franklin? Any ideas of what this build is?

Growing Families

the General Alarm

Sept 2012



Congratulations to Mike Weatherbie and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Kendra Lynn Weatherbie 7 pounds, 7 ounces, and 20 inches long on Sept 30.



City Employee CERT Class

by John Peurifoy

Fire Administration Services Manager Shari Call performs a patient assessment during CERT training at the Fire Department's training facility. This 20 hour FEMA designed class was offered to city employees to teach them how to prepare in case of a major disaster. Students learned lifesaving procedures, how to extinguish small fires, how to rescue trapped victims and carry them to safety, how to recognize buildings that may collapse, and overall what to do in case of a major disaster.



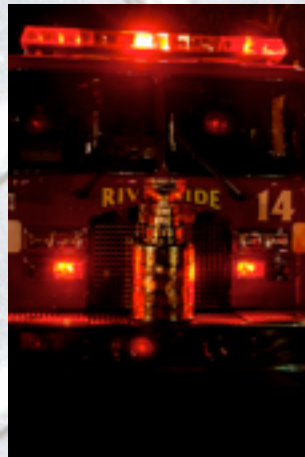
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Left to Right: E4 crew on Stephen Fisher's 12 month practical; Don Lee and Peter Sellas review USAR haz mat equipment with the evaluator at Administrative Readiness Exercise; Bob Pina, Jim Weber, Quentin Priddy, and Dave Hernandez with the 2012 Stanley Cup at the Canyon Crest Shopping Center



Right: Viper by Garrett Coryell E1A had a medical aid on Sept 6 where "Viper's" owner had chest pain while at Smart and Final. She couldn't find anyone to pick Viper up so we took him home in engine 1. Just so happened to be Jeremy Roberts' birthday as well.

